[25th February 1929

Tour and allowances of junior Deputy Inspectors of Schools.

*1428 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the junior grade Deputy Inspectors are required to put in 190 days' tour during a calendar year, failing which they are to refund their proportionate fixed travelling allowances?

A.—The answer is in the affirmative.

Inspection of schools by junior Deputy Inspectors of Schools.

*1429 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the junior grade Deputy Inspectors of Schools in Madura district are compelled to pay visits of improvement to schools which have been assigned to them for annual inspection when they happen to cross such schools on their way to inspection work?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 189 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th September 1928.

Work done by Junior Deputy Inspectors of Schools in Madura district.

*1430 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the number of schools inspected for annual inspection, the actual number of tour days (excluding exemption and condonation by the District Educational Officer) and the number of miles travelled during the calendar years 1927 and 1928 by each junior and senior grade Deputy Inspector of Schools in Madura district?

A.—The information has been called for from the Director of Public Instruction.

Local Boards

Construction of the Moir Causeway at Oothukottai village.

*1431-A Q.—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what was the estimated cost of the Moir Causeway recently constructed and opened at Oothukottai village;

(*b*) whether it was constructed by the Chingleput District Board and whether the Board got a loan from the Government for the purpose; if so, what is the amount of the loan;

(*c*) whether the Government sanctioned the construction of the said causeway; if so, whether the estimates and plans were scrutinized by the Government before the work was actually put on hand;

(*d*) whether the works during its progress or at any stage were inspected or supervised by any Government official; if so, by whom and if not, why not;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that damage has been caused to the said causeway by the recent rains; and if so, when and what was the cause and extent of the damage;

(*f*) what is the time that expired between the actual completion of the work, its opening ceremony and this accident;

(*g*) whether any competent authority of the Government has inspected the works since the breaking of the causeway and reported as to the nature and extent of the damage and the kind of repair that has to be done;

(*h*) what is the name of the contractor and whether the said contractor is a recognized and registered contractor of the Board; what are the relations between him and the President of the District Board;

(*i*) whether the said contractor has had any previous experience of such works or of any kind of masonry work at all; if so, whether there are any works in the Board or elsewhere that have been executed by him in the past; and

(*j*) whether he is a member of the District Board, Chingleput?

A.—(*a*) Rupees 37,700.

(*b*) Yes; the District Board took a loan of Rs. 18,800 from the Government.

(*c*) The estimate is within the sanctioning powers of the Superintending Engineer, and the Superintending Engineer, Madras Circle, must have scrutinized the estimate.

(*d*) The Government have no information.

(*e*) Yes; the damage occurred on 14th November 1928 to the extent of about Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000.

(*f*) The Government have no information.

(*g*) The Government have called for a report from the Chief Engineer. So, the works will be inspected by the officers of the Public Works Department.

(*h*) & (*i*) The contractor was a district board contractor of 30 years' standing who has done various important works. The Government have no information as to his name, his relations with the President of the District Board or the specific works previously executed by him.

(*j*) The Government have no information.

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU:—"May I know with reference to (*d*) whether it is not a fact or a usage that the Government generally inspect such major works of local boards especially when they grant a loan?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not know of any such usage which the hon. Member refers to."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU:—"May I ask whether it is not incumbent on the Government according to rules that they should inspect such major works seeing that their money also is involved?"

Dr. B. S MALLAYYA:—"May I know whether the Minister is aware that the Government deputed an engineer to inspect the works of the Corporation of Madras . . . ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question does not arise."